

MAY 22 2006

Application No. 10/507,404  
Amendment dated May 22, 2006  
Reply to Office Action of March 22, 2006

Docket No.: 209546-84417

### AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently amended) A [[connector]]vehicle trim panel assembly ~~for attaching a hardware component and a trim panel to a vehicular structure, said connector assembly comprising:~~

a vehicle trim panel;

a connector including a head and a shank, wherein said head is detachably connected to said shank, said head having a trim retaining end, a shank engaging end extending from the vehicle trim panel, and a break neck therebetween; and

a hardware component defining an aperture, [[wherein]] said[[a]] shank of said connector extending through said aperture and retaining said hardware component to said vehicle trim panel, wherein said shank[[including a head end and an anchor end]] is adapted to [[for]] secure[[ing]] the hardware component to [[the]]a vehicular structure, said head operatively coupled to said shank, wherein said head is detachable from said shank in both a frangible and a non-frangible manner, and wherein said head includes a trim retaining end for securing the trim panel, a shank engaging end, and a break neck therebetween, and further wherein said trim retaining end breaks from said [[head]]shank engaging end at said break neck when a load is applied to said head allowing removal of the trim panel from the shank, the hardware component and the vehicular structure.

2. (Currently amended) A [[connector assembly]]vehicle trim panel as set forth in Claim 1, wherein said shank further includes a chamber extending between said head end and said anchor end.

3. (Currently amended) A [[connector assembly]]vehicle trim panel as set forth in Claim 2, wherein said chamber is threaded.

4. (Currently amended) A [[connector assembly]]vehicle trim panel as set forth in Claim 3, further including a screw threadedly inserted in said chamber.

Application No. 10/507,404  
Amendment dated May 22, 2006  
Reply to Office Action of March 22, 2006

Docket No.: 209546-84417

5. (Currently amended) A ~~[[connector assembly]]~~vehicle trim panel as set forth in Claim 4, wherein said shank includes a bulbous portion that expands radially outward when said screw is received in said chamber.

6. (Currently amended) A ~~[[connector assembly]]~~vehicle trim panel as set forth in Claim 1, wherein said head further includes an upper disc and a lower disc, and wherein said trim panel includes at least one boss for receiving said upper disc while said lower disc abuts a lower surface of said boss.

7. (Currently amended) A ~~[[connector assembly]]~~vehicle trim panel as set forth in Claim 1, wherein said head is operatively coupled to said shank by a plurality of prongs received within a corresponding number of recesses formed in said head end of said shank.

8. (Currently amended) A ~~[[connector assembly]]~~vehicle trim panel as set forth in Claim 7, wherein said head end of said shank includes a shoulder, said recesses being formed in the shoulder of said head end of said shank.